Mission, Macro Management, National Food Security Mission and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna are under implementation to incentivise farmers to engage themselves profitably in the farming activities.

(d) and (e) World Development Report 2008 titled 'Agriculture for Development' emphasizes for greater investment in agriculture in developing countries. The report stresses that the agricultural sector must be placed at the centre of the development agenda for reducing extreme poverty and hunger.

The report says agriculture can provide pathways out of poverty for millions of rural poor. It says one way out is through a high-value agricultural revolution. Incentives to diversify into high-value horticulture, poultry, fish and dairy products *via* pricing reforms and an overhaul of subsidy support for cereals offer an opportunity to diversify farming systems.

According to the Report, the livelihood of farmers can be improved by increasing productivity of staple crops by making major investments in soil and water management and in agricultural research. It also advocates improving the investment climate for rural non-farm business and job schemes in rural areas. It also highlights the need to invest in rural infrastructure.

Damage to cultivable land due to flood

724. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has conducted any research over the cultivable land being damaged by silt deposition during recurring floods in Assam to make it cultivable again which may be a boon to the flood affected farmers in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per research conducted by Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, about 35,000 ha of cultivable land has been damaged due to sand/silt deposition from floods in the State of Assam along Brahmaputra river and its tributaries. The soils covered with sand/silt upto depth of 20 cm. can be put to cultivation of high yielding rice (Basundhara, IR50, IR36, Joymati, Lachit, Chilerai, Luit, Kapilee, Disang, Prafulla, Gitesh etc.) in kharif and niger, toria, linseed and buck wheat during rabi season. A few flood tolerant rice varieties able to withstand submergence upto 15 days have also been developed.

(c) Does not arise.

Implementation of Vaidyanathan Committee Report

725. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:
SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds released to Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra under the Vaidyanathan Committee Report on strengthening co-operatives;

(b) whether the funds released are passed on to District Co-operative Central Banks (DCCBs) and Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS);

(c) whether Union Government is considering to make good, interest losses suffered by DCCBs and PACS due to late passing on of funds;

(d) whether the objectives of the schemes are fulfilled co-operatives strengthened and credit flow to farm sector is increased; and

(e) how many States in the country utilized the funds under Vaidyanathan Committee Report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Implementation of RKVY in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra

726. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:
SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount released under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) to Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra States;

(b) out of this amount the amount spent by Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra respectively;

(c) whether funds were spent to achieve the objectives under RKVY;

(d) the output and achievements under RKVY; and

(e) whether implementation of TRKVY resulted increased productivity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The amount released to Andhra Pradesh & Maharashtra during 2007-08 (beginning of the scheme), 2008-09 and during 2009-10 (till date) is given as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Andhra Pradesh	Maharashtra
2007-08	61.08	128.20
2008-09	297.17	261.77
2009-10 (till date)	157.67	37.84

(b) The expenditure reported by the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh & Maharashtra is given as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Andhra Pradesh	Maharashtra
2007-08 & 2008-09	351.02	324.55